



Inventor: Cees A. van der Voort

LILY PLANT NAMED 'CORSO'

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of lily plant, botanically known as *Lilium L.*, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'Corso'.

'Corso' is a product of a planned breeding program which had the objective of creating new lily cultivars having large erect flowers and vigorous growth.

10 'Corso' was originated from a hybridization made by the inventor in a controlled breeding program in Rijnsburg, the Netherlands in 1993. The male and female parents were unnamed seedlings of *Lilium L.* oriental hybrids. Both parents are proprietary cultivars used in the breeding program.

15 'Corso' was discovered and selected as one flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross by the inventor, Cees A. van der Voort, in May 1993 in a controlled environment in Rijnsburg, the Netherlands.

20 The first act of asexual reproduction of 'Corso' was accomplished when scales were taken from the initial selection in October 1995 in a controlled environment in Rijnsburg, the Netherlands by, or under the supervision of, Cees A. van der Voort. Horticultural examination of selected units initiated in May, 1995 has demonstrated that the combination of characteristics as herein disclosed for 'Corso' are firmly fixed and are retained through successive generations of asexual reproduction.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be basic characteristics of 'Corso' which in combination distinguish this lily as a new and distinct cultivar:

5 1. large, erect flowers;
 2. slim tepals with curled edges;
 3. intense pink color with contrasting yellow-green mid-vein; and
 4. vigorous growth habit.

10 'Corso' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype of the new cultivar may vary significantly with variations in environment such as temperature, light intensity, and daylength without any change in genotype. The following observations, measurements, and comparisons describe plants grown in the experimental research station CPRO-DLO, Wageningen, the Netherlands under conditions which
15 approximate those generally used in commercial practice.

Of the many commercial cultivars known to the present inventor, no other cultivars are similar in comparison to 'Corso'.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

20 The accompanying color photographic illustration shows typical plant and flower characteristics of 'Corso', with colors being as true as possible with illustrations of this type.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Colour Chart. The color values were determined between 12 pm and 2 pm in May 1999 at the experimental research station CPRO-DLO, Wageningen, the Netherlands.

5 The plants described were observed between 100-120 days after planting the bulbs. The bulbs were cultivated in a greenhouse with temperatures increasing from 12/13°C at time of planting to about 17/18°C at time of flowering. The average daylight during cultivation from April to July was 12-18 hours per day. Fertilizers with Fe and Ca were applied and average water rates were 2x per day for 5 min.

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ORIGIN: Selected crossing from a controlled hybridization program

PARENTAGE:

Female parent: Unnamed seedling
15 Male parent: Unnamed seedling

CLASSIFICATION:

Botanical: A hybrid of the genus *Lilium L.*
Commercial: Oriental Lily cv. 'Corso'

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PLANT:

Form: A single stem carrying numerous, alternately arranged leaves.
Height: Medium for the mature plant, approximately 100 cm, depending on cultivation conditions

Growth Habit: Vigorous with growth to about 120 cm dependent on temperature as a significant factor.

Stem: Circular in transverse section; anthocyanin pigmentation present in spots and stripes (RHS 199B); internodal length uniform

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FOLIAGE:

Quantity: Approximately 35 - 45, depending on cultivation conditions

Size of leaf: Medium, approximately 8½ cm long and 2½ cm wide, depending on cultivation conditions

10 Shape of leaf: Generally ovate

Leaf apex shape: pointed

Leaf base shape: convex Texture: Hardly any

pubescence

Color: Medium green

15 Bulb:

Size: 16 to 18 cm in circumference

Color: White/pink

Bulb shape: concave

Bud diameter: 2 cm.

20 RHS Color Values:

Upper surface of the foliage: RHS 132B

Lower surface of the foliage: RHS 132C

Gray-shading flower bulb: none

Bulb colour: RHS 85D

BUD:

Form: Tapering like a lancet
Size: Large, 8 cm in length, depending on cultivation conditions
5 Opening: Unfolds normally in standard cultivation conditions
Color: Light red-purple, RHS 66D, with gray shading just before opening
Tepals: Folded, three visible

FLOWER:

10 Blooming habit: Raceme
Size: Large, approximately 19 cm diameter, depending on cultivation
conditions
Borne: Erect along a longitudinal axis
Shape: Generally, hexagonal star in form and bowl-shaped in cross-section
15 Tepalage:
Number of Tepals: 6
Tepal length: 7-8 cm.
Tepal width: 3.5 cm.
Tepal (inner and outer_ shape: pointed
20 Pedicel length: 2.5 cm (depending on growing conditions)
Pedicel diameter: 2mm.
Flower mid-vein colour: RHS 144D

Colour of dark spots and markings: RHS 60C

Pedicels: RHS 132D

Anther: RHS 158B

Filament: RHS 145C

5 Filament: RHSS 145C

Pollen: RHS 34B

Pistil: RHS 142D

Arrangement: Three inner and three outer

Color:

10 Upper Surface: Red-purple, RHS 66C, yellowish-green

mid-vein; newly formed buds are light green (RHS 135C)

Lower Surface: Red-purple, RHS 66C

Spotting or Marking: Dark-purple spots and markings are present

Pedicel:

15 Length: Medium to long, approximately 6 cm, depending on cultivation conditions

Form: Tapering like a lancet

Texture: Papillose

Disease Resistance: Medium

20 Fragrance: Present

Lasting Quality: Excellent

Buds: Light-green (RHS 135C) when newly formed

REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS:

Stamens and anthers:

Arrangements: Anthers form a generally circular pattern at their upper ends

Number: 6

5 Length: Filaments are short to medium, depending on cultivation conditions

Filaments Color: Yellowish-green

Pollen color: Orange

Anther color: White/yellow

10 Pistils: Green

Stigma: Pink

Ovaries: Triangular in shape

It takes an average of 2 to 3 weeks (depending on growing conditions) to unfurl the buds. No typical environmental conditions, besides an increase of the average temperature, 15 are needed.

The plant spread, at the moment the plant is mature (3 flowers opened after 100 - 120 days) is 25 -35 cm. depending on growing conditions.

20 The instant plant is not resistant against diseases/pests and moderate susceptible compared to the species as a whole.

The instant plant's fragrance could be described as medium strong.

25 The lastingness of the individual bloom of the instant plant is about 10 days, depending on the environmental conditions.

The cold hardiness of the instant plant is average. The plant can be grown in temperatures from 10 - 30 degrees centigrade.